

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 8-9 with the following amended paragraph:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/616,829, filed July 14, 2000, which claims priority from Japanese Patent Application Reference No. 11-356970, filed December 16, 1999, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.